FY 2009 Capital Budget TPS Report 49326

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development** 

**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)** 

**Grant Recipient: Southeast Alaska Guidance Association** Federal Tax ID: 90-0129698

**Project Title:** 

## Southeast Alaska Guidance Association - Youth Education and Job Training Facility Repairs

State Funding Requested: \$ 50,000 House District: Juneau Areawide (3-4)

One-Time Need

#### **Brief Project Description:**

This project would fund much needed repairs to Eagle Valley Center, which is the base for Alaska Service Corps/Serve Alaska Youth Corps and Young Alaskans Building Affordable Housing (YABAH), as well as an important education asset for the community.

**Funding Plan:** 

Total Cost of Project: \$100,000

<u>Funding Secured</u> <u>Other Pending Requests</u>

Amount FY Amount FY Amount

Rasmuson Foundation \$50,000 FY09

Total \$50,000

#### **Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

This project would fund much needed repairs to Eagle Valley Center, which is the base for Alaska Service Corps/Serve Alaska Youth Corps and Young Alaskans Building Affordable Housing (YABAH), as well as an important community asset. Essential repairs needed include boiler system upgrade/repair, roof repair, driveway improvements, and repairs to back deck. Work would be conducted by YABAH youth as part of their job training program.

In addition to supporting and serving as the base for the YABAH and Alaska Service Corps job training programs, the Eagle Valley Center provides year-round education for approximately 1500 youth each year in leadership and skills training through an Adventure Based Education program. Specially trained staff work with school groups and non-profit organizations, including the Boys & Girls Club and Big Brothers/Big Sisters to teach problem solving, decision-making, cooperation skills, community building, interpersonal relations, goal setting, and building self-esteem and confidence.

Matching funding will be pursued from Rasmusson Foundation and/or other grantors for the remaining 50% of funding necessary to fully complete the project.

Page 1

#### **Project Timeline:**

Contact Number: 465-3744

Funds will be expended in FY09

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

Anticipated Future Need

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FY 2009 Capital Budget TPS Report 49326

# Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project: SAGA Grant Recipient Contact Information: Contact Name: Joe Parrish Phone Number: 790-6403

Email: sagajp@servealaska.org

Address: PO Box 33037, Juneau, AK 99803

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes X No

Contact Name: Sudie Hargis Contact Number: 465-3744 For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

4:57 PM 4/29/2008



### SAGA

Alaska Service Corps/Serve Alaska Youth Corps Young Alaskans Building Affordable Housing Eagle Valley Center Connections www.servealaska.org P.O. Box 33037 Juneau, AK 99803 (907) 789-6172 (800) 789-6172 (907) 789-3118 Fax sagajp@servealaska.org

February 14, 2008

Representative Doll State Capitol, Room 426 Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Doll,

The Southeast Alaska Guidance Association (SAGA) is celebrating its 22<sup>nd</sup> year of serving youth. We are asking your support for a special project. Since 1992 SAGA has operated the Eagle Valley Center (a.k.a. the SAGA Lodge) as an Adventure Based Education program and retreat facility for young people. We are asking you to join SAGA's effort to provide some needed improvements to the facility.

The Eagle Valley Center (EVC) provides year-round Adventure Based Education programming for 1,500 Juneau youth each year. EVC programs include the Team Challenge Course, Teen Adventure Camps, High Ropes Course, Sea Kayaking, Rock Climbing, Backpacking, and Winter Camping. Although the City and Borough of Juneau owns the land and facility, SAGA is responsible for the maintenance and care of the property through a special use agreement with the city.

The facility is located at mile 24.5 on Amalga Harbor Road and is unique among the various retreat centers in the area. It is the only facility in Juneau that has a Team Challenge and High Ropes Course. Specially trained staff work with school groups and various non-profits such as Big Brothers/Sisters, Boys & Girls Club, etc., to customize an experience for the participants that accomplishes the goals identified by the group leaders. Common goals include; group problem solving and decision-making, cooperation skills, community building, enhancing interpersonal relations, goal setting, and building self-esteem and confidence. The other retreat centers in the area also benefit from this unique programming by being able to include it as an option for their customers. Although our main user groups are local students and young adults, we do provide services and trainings to many adult groups as well. Board member retreats, workshops, meetings, staff development trainings, weddings, and lodging for adult volunteer groups such as the American Hiking Society are common uses.

The EVC lodge is 26 years old this year. SAGA has been maintaining it as a training and retreat center since 1992. The facility is starting to show its age and SAGA is committed to maintaining its integrity and charm as a valued community resource. Although the trainings and services that the EVC provides do produce a revenue stream, it falls short of addressing some of the larger repairs and upgrades that the facility needs. As such, SAGA is requesting your support for funding some of these items. They include:

- Boiler system upgrade and repair. Estimated cost: \$10,000
- Repairs to the back deck (decking and support replacement). Estimated cost: \$15,000
- Driveway improvements (drainage ditches, culverts, and gravel/surfacing). Estimated cost \$50,000
- Roof repair and other weatherization projects. Estimated cost \$25,000





Total Request: \$100,000

SAGA plans to provide the labor for projects such as the deck and roof repair, and other planned projects that include constructing an additional retreat cabin, painting, and trail maintenance. SAGA's Serve Alaska Youth Corps and Young Alaskans Building Affordable Housing (YABAH) participants will provide the labor. Your support of this request not only enhances an important community resource, it provides valuable job training, work experience, and service opportunities for young people.

I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this further and to arrange a visit the Eagle Valley Center for a first hand look at the facility.

Thank you for your consideration and for all your hard work for the people of Juneau.

Respectfully,

Joe Parrish

Director/Founder, SAGA

Phone: 790-6403

Email: sagajp@servealaska.org

SAGA Website: www.servealaska.org











